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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventors: DeOrnellas, et al.

SC/Serial No.: 10/045,318

Confirm. No.: 3120

Filed: November 9, 2001

Title: METHOD FOR USING A HARD MASK FOR  
CRITICAL DIMENSION GROWTH  
CONTAINMENT

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 1765

Examiner: L. Umez Eronini

Customer No. 23910

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 7, 2004

Thomas A. Ward (Attorney Signature)  
Thomas A. Ward, Reg. 35,732  
Signature Date: September 7, 2004

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 4, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments**

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 53 and 57 as shown in the listing of claims beginning of the following page.